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tute of Buenos Aires, has been reappointed in a recent decree reorganizing the institution. The sections and the individuals in charge are: hygiene, Dr. Carbonnell; plague, Dr. Uriarte; serotherapy, Dr. Sordelli; physics and chemistry, Dr. Wernicke; experimental physiology and pathology, Dr. Houssay; medical zoology, Dr. Bachmann, and parasitology, Dr. Wolff-hugel.

PROFESSOR I. NEWTON KUGELMASS, head of the department of chemistry at Howard College, addressed the Southern Child Health Association on "Applied Nutrition for Raising the Standard of Child Vitality in the Service of the Newer National Domism," in Birmingham, on May 1.

AT the London meeting of the Institute of Metals on May 19, Professor F. Soddy, F.R.S., delivered the ninth annual May lecture on "Radio-Activity."

PROFESSOR J. H. JEANS, F.R.S., delivered a lecture on "The Quantum Theory and New Theories of Atomic Structure" at a meeting of the Chemical Society in London on May 1.

DR. AARON AARONSON, agricultural expert, of Haifa, Palestine, was killed in a fall of an airplane on May 15, near Boulogne, while flying from London to Paris. Dr. Aaronsohn had been a technical adviser of the United States Department of Agriculture.

THE next annual meeting of the American Chemical Society will be held in Philadelphia, from September 2 to 6, inclusive. The Philadelphia section is already planning to continue the rising curve of success and attendance for the meeting next fall.

SURGEON-GENERAL IRELAND has authorized during the present "emergency," the preparation and application of psychological tests to recruits, that men of low mentality may be barred from the army.

THE thirty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture occurred on May 9. When the bureau began operations in 1884 it had a staff of less than twenty employees; it has now more than 5,200, working through thirteen divisions and offices.

HOMER P. RITTER, for many years an officer of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and a member of the Mississippi River Commission, died at Washington, D. C., April 21, 1919. He was returning from a meeting of the Mississippi River Commission at Memphis and was taken ill on the train. On his arrival at Washington, on Saturday morning, he was taken to the Emergency Hospital, and died there. Mr. Ritter was born in Cleveland, Ohio, March 4, 1855. He attended the high school in Cleveland from 1869 to 1873 and Columbia College School of Mines from 1878 to 1880. He was afterwards employed for several years on railway surveys. He entered the Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1885; was appointed an assistant in 1895, and continued in the service until the time of his death. Mr. Ritter had been employed on field work in all parts of the United States and in Alaska and his last duty was in charge of the Field Station of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, at Boston, Massachusetts.

PROFESSOR JOEL STEBBINS, secretary of the American Astronomical Society, writes: "In SCIENCE for May 10 there is an announcement that representatives of certain foreign observatories will be at the meeting of the American Astronomical Society at Ann Arbor on September 1. This is a mistake because so far as known to the officers of the society there will be no such representation from abroad." The erroneous statement was taken from the *Michigan Alumnus*.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE seismological library of Count F. de Montessus de Ballore, director of the Seismological Service of Chile, has recently been purchased by Dr. J. C. Branner and presented to Stanford University. This is probably one of the most complete collections of seismological literature in existence and it is accompanied by a manuscript catalogue containing nearly 5,000 titles.

THE department of medicine of the University of Toronto is to be the recipient of a gift

of \$25,000 a year for a period of twenty-five years from Sir John and Lady Eaton. This is to provide for a full-time clinician in the department of medicine and a half-time clinician in pediatrics.

THE court of governors of the University College of North Wales, at their meeting at Bangor, appointed a deputation to wait upon the Board of Agriculture regarding the proposal to have only two schools of forestry in Great Britain—one in Scotland and the other either at Oxford or Cambridge. Fears were expressed that if this was carried into effect it would mean the extinction of the forestry department in connection with the University College of North Wales. It was felt that one of the two new schools should be established in Wales, with its large area of forests.

SIR ARTHUR NEWSHOLME, K.C.B., who is now in the United States has accepted for the academic year 1919-1920, the chair of hygiene in the new school of public health of the Johns Hopkins Medical School.

CHARLES JOSEPH TILDEN, professor of civil engineering at Johns Hopkins University, has been elected professor of engineering mechanics in Yale University and assigned to the Sheffield Scientific School.

AUSTIN F. ROGERS and Cyrus F. Tolman, Jr., of the department of geology at Stanford University, have been promoted from associate professors to professors.

MORRIS M. LEIGHTON, Ph.D., Chicago, 1916, has accepted a joint-position as assistant professor of geology at the University of Illinois and as Geologist on the Illinois Geological Survey.

At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology the following assistant professors have been promoted to associate professorships: H. C. Bradley, department of drawing and descriptive geometry; C. E. Locke, department of mining engineering and metallurgy, and N. C. Page, department of electrical engineering. The following instructors have been appointed assistant professors: J. B. Babcock, 3d, railroad engineering; S. A. Breed, mechanical

drawing and descriptive geometry; L. A. Hamilton, analytical chemistry; H. B. Luther, civil engineering; C. S. Robinson, industrial chemistry; R. H. Smith, mechanical engineering; C. E. Turner, biology and public health.

MR. WILLIAM MORRIS JONES, M.Sc., B.A., has been appointed lecturer and experimentalist in physics at the University College, Bangor.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE QUANTITATIVE CHARACTER-MEASUREMENTS IN COLOR CROSSES

THE writer, although working in plant and not in animal breeding, has been struck with the desirability of finding a more exact quantitative measure of degree of distribution of coat color in animal crosses. The following is suggested. Photograph the animal in a centered position on its two flanks. On the photographic prints of the right and left sides, determine the area of the color markings under investigation with a planimeter. These areas, reduced to percentages of the entire area photographed, will give a quantitative expression for the degree of extension of the character markings. The writer would venture to suggest the following possibility in the study of the operation of an extension factor. Let the photographic prints be ruled off in square centimeter areas with India ink. Then the relation of the color areas to the region of the animal's anatomy can be definitely established upon a quantitative basis. This having been done for the parents, the operation of an extension factor could be studied both quantitatively with respect to the amount of surface over which the factor became operative, and topographically with respect to the location and range of its operation in the progeny. If desired, it would be a comparatively simple matter to construct a cross-wire screen behind which the animal could be photographed, and which would thus reproduce the areas to scale directly.

In the study of inheritance in plants, the application of this method suggests itself very readily in color-inheritance in the seed-coats of beans and other legumes. By photograph-